
Fr. Corey's Comments

We have heard a great deal from our Connecticut Bishops recently. One issue that may have been missed is the bill passed by the State Legislature and awaiting the Governor's signature is the abolishment of the death penalty in our state. The Catholic Bishops of the state of Connecticut have urged the Governor to sign the bill, but Governor Rell is on the road to veto. Now, the Death Penalty is a touchy issue on which many hold different opinions.

The bishops' May 28 letter to Governor Rell asked her to "respect the decision of the General Assembly, reconsider your publicly stated position on this bill, and allow (it) to become the law of the land in Connecticut".

"While Catholic social and moral teachings support the right of any state to protect itself from serious criminals, it has long held that such action does not require the use of the death penalty when the penal system can guarantee the incarceration of an offender for life," the bishops said. The bishops also noted that with the cost of "unending appeals" and the "inconsistent and uneven way" the death penalty is applied, "although a perpetrator of a heinous crime may receive a sentence of death in Connecticut, the possibility that this person will actually be executed is very unlikely". They added, "It is highly questionable that the existence of a death penalty is a deterrent to those who commit a capital crime."

The bill passed 90-56 in the state House, but 19-17 in the Senate, making Rell's threatened veto difficult to override, since a two-thirds majority would be needed.

There are currently 10 men on Connecticut's death row, including prisoners who committed their crimes in the 1980s.

It is important to recognize that the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church state the following:

Assuming that the guilty party's identity and responsibility have been fully determined, the traditional teaching of the Church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means, as these are more in keeping with the concrete conditions of the common good and are more in conformity to the dignity of the human person.

Today, in fact, as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for effectively preventing crime, by rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm - without definitely taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself - the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity "are very rare, if not practically non-existent".

So, after prayer and study a well-informed conscience (guided by the Church and its teachings) can help us to make up our minds on this very important issue.

A mea culpa! If forgot to congratulate our Kindergarten children as they graduated this week. A job well done to parents, Miss Trotta, and all of our graduates.

More Comments

Answers for last week's Catholic Trivia:

A luna or lunette is a receptacle having the shape of a circle, which serves to hold the Host in an upright position in the monstrance. It takes its name from the ancient word for the growing moon (a luna).

A Baldacchino comes from an Italian word for Baghdad. It is a canopy or dome over the altar or bishop's chair. The most famous in St. Peter's in Rome, which was designed by Bernini.

The colors used for vestments are: white, green, red, violet (purple), rose, black, silver and gold – 8 in total.

The title Monsignor comes from the French and means "my lord".

Ok, some of these questions have been a bit tough, so here are a few easier ones this week. I hope you are keeping a running tab of correct answers. Fr. Cyrus is a great cook, and breakfast with the priests in the Fall will be a delicious event.

1. How many days are in the season of Lent?
2. On top of the crucifix there are some letters; what does INRI mean?
3. Who was Jesus' cousin in the New Testament?
4. How many books are there in the Bible?



Remember, Father's Day is next Sunday, and we have prayer books in the vestibule for all the Fathers. Also, we ask everyone to bring a canned ham to Church for the Little Sisters of the Poor and their elderly residents in Enfield. Last year the hams we gave them helped to feed the community for over 6 months.

That reminds me of a story. A pig and a chicken were walking down the street and came across a Church with a sign out front that said: "Ham and egg breakfast. Proceeds to benefit the poor." The chicken said to the pig: "What a great idea! We should help." The pig said to the chicken "Oh sure, it's simply a contribution for you. For me it's a commitment."



For Your Information

The Rectory office hours are usually 9:00am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday. They will be posted in the bulletin if they are different. (Please note that there is a lunch time worked into that schedule, so if you call and get voice mail, someone will call you back right after lunch.) There is no secretarial staff on weekends. This may seem a bit strange, but the priests have days off during the week. If we had Saturday and Sunday off, things would be very quiet on the weekends. So, Fr. Ed has Monday and Tuesday off, I have Wednesday and Thursday off, and Fr. Cyrus has Thursday and Friday off. The reason I share this information is so you will not think we are ignoring you if you call on our days off, and we do not immediately get back to you. The parish staff can direct your phone call if you need to speak to a priest, and if you ever call and get the voice mail, we offer a "serious emergency" number so you can get in touch with a priest immediately. If you call and get the voice mail, please follow the instructions, and you can leave a message on any of our voice mails.

CONCERNING THE SWINE FLU

It has been recommended by the Diocese that the following temporary precautionary measures be taken during this flu outbreak.

- We shall not have the Cup of Precious Blood at Mass.
- We encourage all to receive Holy Communion in the hand.
- We encourage all not to shake hands during the sign of peace but to verbally wish each other the sign of peace, smile or nod.
- We have Purell in the bench for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, and they have washed their hands before Mass. The clergy in the sanctuary also has Purell in case of a cough or sneeze.
- If you are ill, please stay home until you are better. There is no sin occurred if you are not feeling well.

Thank you for your cooperation.



FLAG DAY



MANDATORY MEETING: All teens going on the Mission Trip are required to attend (with a parent) this meeting tonight, SUN., 6/14, at 6:30, in the **Parish Hall**.



ST. MARY BOOK CLUB – JUNE BOOK: “*The Return of the Prodigal Son*”, by **Henri J. M. Nouwen**. Join **Deacon John** in the **Children’s Room** on TUES., JUNE 30th, at 7:30pm, for a group discussion.



Religious Education REGISTRATION – Religious Ed. is available for children in grades K-8. They **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. If you have a child entering **Kindergarten or 1st grade** who is **not** yet registered for the Fall, please call **Rel. Ed. (743-4557)**, and we will send you a form.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JULY 27 – 31, 9:00-11:45am, for children 3-8 years old. **Cost: \$15.00.** Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church or on our website: www.stmarybethel.org.



Schedules for JULY & AUGUST are due out. If you cannot serve any weekend during these months, please call **Sheila (744-5777)** by FRI., JUNE 19th, so you will not be scheduled for that week. Please call if you no longer wish to serve.



MEALS-ON-WHEELS:
WEEK OF DELIVERIES

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please call our **Prayer Line**. Our team leaders are **Mary Walsh (798-1237)** and **Colleen Santaniello (792-0009)**.



EARLY DISMISSAL: MON. JUNE 15th.

All are invited to join us for our closing Liturgy on TUES., JUNE 16th, at 9:00am, followed by early dismissal for the last day of School. It will be an opportunity for us to thank God for the many blessings bestowed upon us this school year. We wish you all a Happy and Health Summer.



Registration There is ongoing registration for St. Mary School 2009-2010 School year for grades k-8. For more information please call **Sr. Anne McCarthy (744-2922)**.

Come Sing with the Choir! The adult choir welcomes singers to become part of our Music Liturgy. If you are interested in joining, please call **Elizabeth (798-0076)**.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NEXT REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING:

MON., JUNE 22nd, 8:15pm, in the **Parish Hall**. The **Knights of Columbus** is a Catholic men’s fraternal society dedicated to providing service to Church, community, family and youth. If you are interested in joining us, visit <http://pavia48.tripod.com/> or call **Paul DiMarzio (778-2840)**.

Congratulations to the recipients of this year’s Pavia Council awards who were honored at the **Council’s Annual Scholarship Ceremony** on THUR., JUNE 11th.

- David Whitmore – **Bernard J. Dolan, Sr. Memorial Scholarship**
- Susan Hannagan – **Arthur J. Mannion, Sr. Memorial Scholarship**
- Hannah Greenwood – **Nino Vaghi Good Sportsmanship Award**



CAMP

July 6-10, 13-17

**Monday - Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm
St. Mary School Grounds, Bethel
Cost is \$100 per child per week**

This is the 11th year of our summer camp for children in grades k-6 (for the 2008-09 school year). Amusements, Water Slides, Rock Wall, Games, T-shirts, Prizes, Bible and Saint Stories, Arts & Crafts, Songs, Prayer and much more!

Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church, at the Rectory, and also on our website at www.stmarybethel.org. Make checks payable to: St. Mary Church, and return forms and payment to the Rectory.

For more information, please call Kate Fitzgerald at 744-5777 or visit our website!

ACT NOW! SPACE IS LIMITED!!!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., JUNE 15	6:30 + Helen Lupo – Luchsinger Family	
	9:00 + Derry Kenning – Wife	
TUES, JUNE 16	6:30 + Frank Chiapetta – Charles & Theresa Ballantoni	
	9:00 + Tony Soegaard – Paul & Rosalie DeMarco	
WED., JUNE 17	6:30 + Carol Brawley – Dave Deakin	
	9:00 + Frances Meluso – Evelyn Pica	
THU., JUNE 18	6:30 + Doris Liehr – Suhr Family	
	9:00 + Charles Montagna – Kevin & Brenda Cleary	
FRI., JUNE 19	6:30 + Rev. Patrick J. O’Connell	
	9:00 + Mark Barney (10 th Anniv.) – Family	
SAT., JUNE 20	8:00 + Alice McShane – Brendan Duffy	
	5:30 + Paul Morton, Sr. – Chamberlin Family	
SUN., JUNE 21	7:00 + Carmina Gryskiewicz – Ken & Cindy Roberts & Family	
	8:30 + Carlo Maddalena & John Milone – Children, Rosalie & Paul	
	10:00 + May Yee – Helen & Dan Yee	
	11:30 + Armstrong Irving – Phoebe Ann Vecchia	
	5:30 + Andrew Deeb – Wife & Family	



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Lily Joan Friedland

Connor John Kraft

II – Richard Gerety & Robyn Frazao

I – Ciro Labadia & Amanda Boyer



GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$14,220

*If you, or a family member, are planning a stay at Danbury Hospital,
please inform the Rectory so a member of the clergy may visit.*

PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)
Sheila Kurjiaka: *Bulletin Editor*
Kate Fitzgerald: *Secretary*
Paul Orsino: *Property Manager*
Steve DeMarco: *Parish Council President*
Jane Shannon: *Cemetery Administrator*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557)
Mary Ferri: *Director*
Peggy Gavin: *Secretary*
Dennis Nauheimer (RCIA): 794-9488

MUSIC MINISTRY
Mike Macelletti: *Music Director*
Elizabeth Barnes: *Choir Director*
Debbie Caraluzzi: *Contemp. Group Director*

ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922)
Sister Anne McCarthy: *Principal*
Linda Curry: *Secretary*

MASS SCHEDULE
Monday – Friday: 6:30 & 9:00am
Saturday: 8:00am & 5:30pm
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm.

BAPTISMS: *Every Sunday at 1:00pm.*
(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)

PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES: *Twice a Month.*
(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)

ARRANGEMENT FOR MARRIAGE:
Couples must meet with a parish clergyman at least six (6) months before the marriage is to be celebrate.